

PATENT SPECIFICATION

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(54) FURNITURE DRAWER STOP MEANS

(71) We, HYGENA LIMITED, British Company of Charley Wood Road, Kirkby Industrial Estate, Kirkby, Liverpool L33 7SH, Lancashire., do hereby declare the invention, for which we pray that a Patent may be granted to us, and the method by which it is to be performed, to be particularly described in and by the following statement:—

This invention relates to articles of furniture which contain one or more sliding drawers, and has for its object to provide simple but effective means of providing stops for such drawers which will prevent them from being accidentally and completely withdrawn from their guides. A further object is to provide stop means which will be particularly useful in respect of articles of furniture which incorporate a plurality of sliding drawers disposed one above the other with no intervening cross-rails.

Broadly, according to the invention, the or each drawer of an article of furniture is provided at or adjacent to the rear of one or each of its side walls with a projection, and the adjacent side wall or walls, or frame member or members, of the article of furniture is or are provided with a rearwardly extending resilient stop plate which projects into the path of the laterally extending projections of the drawer. Said stop plates are located adjacent to the front of the article of furniture so as to be over-ridden by a drawer's stop projections when said drawer is first inserted, but thereafter function to prevent complete removal of the drawer by positively engaging its stop projections.

Conveniently, in the case of drawers the component parts whereof are moulded or cast from a plastics composition, said stop projections may be in the form of mouldings or enlargements which provide vertical shoulders at each rear corner. The resilient stop plates may be of metal or plastics or other resilient material and may be simply screwed into required position.

The invention is further described with the aid of the explanatory drawings accompanying the Provisional Specification

and which illustrate, by way of example only, one embodiment.

In said drawings:—

Figure 1 is a front perspective view of a multi-drawer kitchen furniture unit with the drawers removed;

Figure 2 is a fragmentary plan view of one rear corner of a drawer (the other rear corner being similar) inserted in the unit up to a point just prior to engagement of the stop plates, and

Figure 3 is a view similar to Figure 2 but showing the drawer engaged by the stop plates.

Referring to said drawings, there is shown a kitchen furniture unit of the kind which incorporates a plurality, in this instance four, sliding drawers 11 (Figures 2 and 3). Such a unit is sometimes referred to as a chest-of-drawers. The unit comprises side walls 12 and 13, a floor 14, a top 15, a back 16 and a plinth or base 17. Secured to the side walls 12 and 13 are four pairs of runner guides generally designed 18.

Secured one adjacent to each runner guide 18 on the side walls 12, 13, and close to the front thereof, are stop plates 20. Said stop plates are composed of a suitably resilient material, for example a metal or a plastics. Each of said plates 20 comprises a front part 20a and rear part 20b, the front part 20a being apertured so as to receive a securing screw 21 driven therethrough into the side wall (13/13) of the unit. The part 20b is preset at an angle to the part 20a as indicated in Figures 2 and 3. The drawer 11 in this instance is of plastics construction with the side and rear wall components 11a, 11b thereof being interconnected by corner pieces 11c. The side walls 11a are formed with grooves 11d to slidably engage with the runner guides 18. Said corner pieces 11c are constructed so as to stand proud of the walls 11a, 11b and in particular to provide a stop projection or shoulder 22 at each side of the drawer.

As will be clear, when a drawer 11 is engaged with a pair of runners 18 and slid towards closed position, the said corner

pieces 11c will over-ride the stop plates 20 which are displaced laterally as indicated in Figure 2. When clear of the corner pieces 11c the stop plates 20 return to their rest positions shown in Figure 3. In this latter position the extremities of the rear parts 20b of the plates 20 positively prevent the drawer 11 from being accidentally withdrawn clear of its runners 18 by abutting against the shoulders 22.

When it is desired to remove a drawer completely from the unit, e.g. for cleaning purposes, then this can be simply achieved by manually pressing back the stop plates 20 at each side.

It is of course to be understood that in some instances a stop plate at one side only of a drawer will be sufficient for the purpose intended.

20 WHAT WE CLAIM IS:—

1. An article of furniture comprising one or a plurality of drawers, the or each drawer having a laterally extending projection at or adjacent to the rear of one or each of its side walls, and the adjacent side wall or walls or frame member or members of the article of furniture is or are provided with a rearwardly extending resilient stop plate which projects into the path of the laterally extending projection of the drawer.

2. An article of furniture, as claimed in claim 1, wherein the or each drawer is moulded or cast from a plastics material and said stop projections comprise vertical shoulders constituted by mouldings or enlargements at each rear corner of the drawer.

3. An article of furniture, as claimed in claim 2, wherein said mouldings or enlargements are corner pieces which connect the side and rear walls of the drawer, said corner pieces being constituted so as to stand proud of the side walls.

4. An article of furniture, as claimed in any of the preceding claims, wherein said resilient stop plates are composed of metal or plastics material and each comprises a front part apertured to receive a securing screw and a rear part pre-set at an angle to the front part.

5. An article of furniture incorporating one or more drawers, and stop means for the or each drawer substantially as hereinbefore described with reference to the drawings accompanying the Provisional Specification.

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